UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,588	07/13/2001	Kazuya Sakamoto	862.C2302	9604

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _18 January 2006_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-3,5-11,13-19,21-27,29-35,37-53,55 and 56_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-3,5-11,13-19,21-27,29-35,37-53,55 and 56_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _13 July 2001_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _2/14/06_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 18 January 2006.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, and 41-44 have

been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 41-44 and 50-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Kim (5,885,010).

5.   Regarding Claim 41, Suzuki discloses an information processing apparatus

which generates print data and outputs to a printing apparatus, comprising:

determination means for, while generating and sending print data to the printing

apparatus, determining whether or not a notification of print cancellation has been

received from the printing apparatus (detection of print result error) (col. 15, lines 7-11);

and transfer means for, if said determination means determines that the notification of

print cancellation has been received, stopping generation of the print data (suspending

current print job) (col. 15, lines 7-11), and transferring predetermined data indicating a

break of the print data, deleted after issuance of the notification of print cancellation

from the printing apparatus, to the printing apparatus (deletion of data when a print job

is cancelled) (col. 9, liens 64-67, col. 10, lines 1-12).

6.   Claims 42-44 are rejected for the same reason as claim 41.

7.   Regarding Claim 50, Kim discloses an information processing apparatus,

wherein if said determination means determines that the notification of print cancellation

has been received (forced stop switch 20 is pressed) (col. 3, lines 29-30), said transfer

means transmits the print data before the break of command (document data

transmitted to the printer form the computer) (col. 3, lines 27-30), and then outputs the

predetermined data (paper is discharged) (col. 3, lines 38-41) (Fig. 1).

8.   Claims 51-53 are rejected for the same reason as claim 50.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 1, 8, 9, 16, 17, 24, 25, 32, 33, 40, 45, and 46-48 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Suzuki (US 6,549,957).

11.   Regarding Claim 1, Kim teaches a printing apparatus (printer 100) which

receives print data from a host computer (computer) and prints, on a recording medium,

in image on the basis of the received print data (document to print), the host computer,

upon receipt of a notification of print cancellation from said printing apparatus during

generating and outputting of the print data to said printing apparatus stopping

generation of the print data and outputting predetermined data to said printing

apparatus (forced stop method of a printer), said printing apparatus comprising:

instruction means for issuing a print cancel instruction (Fig. 2, S1) (stop print switch

activated); notification means for, in response to the print cancel instruction by said

instruction means, stopping a current printing process (Fig. 2, S5) (ceasing printing) and

notifying a the host computer of print cancellation (Fig. 2, S2) (outputting interrupt signal

to the computer) and to output the predetermined data (Fig. 2, S6) (discharging the

paper); and processing means for, after issuance of the print cancel instruction by said

instruction means, deleting the print data received until the predetermined data is

received from said host computer (Fig. 2, S4) (clearing print data stored in RAM) (col. 3,

lines 26-45).

Kim fails to teach a printing apparatus, comprising: the host computer to stop

generation of print data.

Suzuki teaches a printing apparatus, comprising: the host computer to stop

generation of print data (job termination) (col. 15, lines 7-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim with the teaching of Suzuki

have the computer abort transmission of print data due to printing errors.

12.   Regarding Claim 8, Kim discloses a printing apparatus, wherein after the

issuance of the print cancel instruction by said instruction means, said processing

means causes paper discharge (Fig. 2, S6) (discharging the paper) (col. 3, lines 39-41).

13.   Regarding Claim 9, Kim teaches a printing system having a host computer and a

printing apparatus which prints on a recording medium, wherein said printing apparatus

comprises: instruction means for issuing a print cancel instruction (Fig. 2, S1) (stop print

switch activated); notification means for, in response to the print cancel instruction by

said instruction means, stopping a current printing process (Fig. 2, S5) (ceasing

printing) and notifying said host computer of print cancellation (Fig. 2, S2) (outputting

interrupt signal to the computer); and processing means for, after issuance of the print

cancel instruction by said instruction means, deleting print data received until

predetermined data is received from said host computer (Fig. 2, S4) (clearing print data

stored in RAM) (col. 3, lines 26-45).

Kim fails to teach a printing system wherein said host computer comprises:

means for, in response to a notification of print cancellation by said notification means,

stopping generation of print data, and outputting the predetermined data.

Suzuki teaches a printing system wherein said host computer comprises: means

for, in response to a notification of print cancellation by said notification means, stopping

generation of print data, and outputting the predetermined data (job termination) (col.

15, lines 7-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim with the teaching of Suzuki

have the computer abort transmission of print data due to printing errors.

14.   Claims 16, 24, 32, and 40 are rejected for the same reason as claim 8.

15.   Claims 17, 25, and 33 are rejected for the same reason as claim 1.

16.   Regarding Claim 45, Kim teaches a printing apparatus wherein the host computer transmits the print data before a break of command (data transmitted from the computer) (col. 3, lines 26-30) and then outputs the predetermined data to said printing apparatus (paper is discharged) (col. 3, lines 38-40), in response to the issuance of the print cancel instruction by said instruction means (forced stop switch 20 is pressed) (col. 3, lines 29-30) (Fig. 1).

17.   Claims 46-49 are rejected for the same reason as claim 45.

18.   Claims 2, 10, 18, 26, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim and Suzuki as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Salgado et al (US 6,885,478).

19.   Regarding Claim 2, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus wherein the predetermined data indicates end of printing job.

Salgado et al teach a printing apparatus wherein the predetermined data indicates end of printing job (jobs error sheet printed upon completion of the job) (col. 15, lines 4-9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the teaching of Salgado to output data indicating the end of a print job to let the user know about the last sheet of the print job.

20.   Claims 10, 18, 26, and 34 are rejected for the same reason as claim 2.

21.   Claims 3, 6, 11, 19, 14, 19, 22, 27, 30, 35, 38, 55, and 56 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim and Suzuki as applied to claim 1 above,

and further in view of Van Buren et al (US 6,667,816).

22.   Regarding Claim 3, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus wherein the

predetermined data includes an end mark.

        Van Buren et al teach a printing apparatus wherein the predetermined data

includes an end mark (error page is printed) (col. 18, lines 12-18).

        Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the

teaching of Van Buren to output data to let the user know that the print job was

cancelled.

23.   Regarding Claim 6, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus further

comprising means for printing information regarding the print cancellation on a recording

medium on which an image is printed based on the print data.

        Van Buren et al teach a printing apparatus further comprising means for printing

information regarding the print cancellation on a recording medium on which an image

is printed based on the print data (Fig. 16, S16-60) (col. 18, lines 12-18).

        Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the

teaching of Van Buren to output an error message indicating the status of the print job.

24.   Claims 11, 19, 27, and 35 are rejected for the same reason as claim 3.

25.   Claims 14, 22, 30, and 38 are rejected for the same reason as claim 6.

26.   Regarding Claim 55, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus wherein said processing means skips the print data received until the predetermined data is received from the host computer.

27.   Van Buren et al teach a printing apparatus wherein said processing means skips the print data received until the predetermined data is received from the host computer (job is unfinished IP job) (col. 18, lines 4-18).

28.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the teaching of Van Buren to let the user know why the print job was not outputted.

29.   Claim 56 was rejected for the same reason as claim 55.

30.   Claims 5, 7, 13, 15, 21, 23, 29, 31, 37, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim and Suzuki as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hirabayashi (US 6,549,936).

31.   Regarding Claim 5, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus wherein communication with the host computer is made by packet communication, and wherein said notification means notifies the host computer of the print cancellation, to cause the host computer to output dummy data for adjustment of packet data length and to output a packet including the predetermined data, in response to the print cancel instruction by said instruction means.

Hirabayashi teaches a printing apparatus wherein communication with the host computer is made by packet communication, and wherein said notification means notifies the host computer of the print cancellation, to cause the host computer to output

dummy data for adjustment of packet data length and to output a packet including the predetermined data, in response to the print cancel instruction by said instruction means (Fig. 5, request data stream) (col. 8, lines 18-48)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the teaching of Hirabayashi to use packet communication to communicate with the printing apparatus.

32.   Regarding Claim 7, Kim and Suzuki fail to teach a printing apparatus wherein the predetermined data includes a control code indicating end of print job.

Hirabayashi teaches a printing apparatus wherein the predetermined data includes a control code indicating end of print job (Fig. 5A, request data stream) (col. 8, lines 18-48).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kim and Suzuki with the teaching o Hirabayashi to use a control code to escape from the printer command.

33.   Claims 13, 21, 29, and 37 are rejected for the same reason as claim 5.

34.   Claims 15, 23, 31, and 39 are rejected for the same reason as claim 7.

Conclusion

35.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

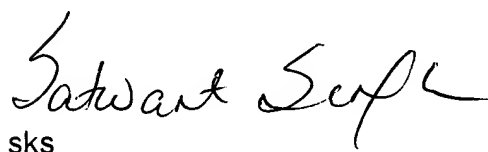than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571)

272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am -
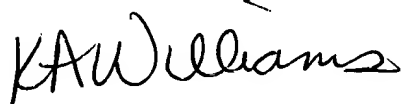
4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Satwant K. Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

sks

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER